

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 2, 7 and 8 include allowable subject matter. Claims 2 and 7 have been re-written in independent form to include the features of claim 1 (now canceled). Therefore, claims 2 and 7 should be in condition for allowance.

Claim 8 depends from claim 7 and also should be in condition for allowance.

Claims 3-6 and 9-12 depend from claim 1 and should be allowable as well.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/6/06

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